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The Urban District Council of Tredegar

Annual Report



of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1960

Southey, Printers, Merthyr

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

Dr. M. J. DONELAN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

I

Tredegar Urban District Council

Chairman (1960) : Councillor R. I. Davies, J.P.

Chairman (1960) : Public Health Committee : Councillor I. Williams

MEMBERS :

West Ward.

Councillor W. R. Phillips
Councillor D. T. J. Richards
Councillor J. Stockton
Councillor R. Williams

Central Ward.

Councillor W. A. Baines, B.E.M.
Councillor E. Jones, M.B.E., J.P.
Councillor G. H. Tuffin.
Councillor G. T. Meredith

Georgetown Ward.

Councillor A. L. Coombes
Councillor H. R. Davies
Councillor J. B. McPherson
Councillor (Mrs.) I. Powell

Sirhowy Ward.

Councillor R. I. Davies, J.P.
Councillor T. James,
Councillor I. Williams
Councillor M. G. Jones

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. M. J. Donelan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

O. Griffiths, M.R.S.H.

Certificated Public Health Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board, 1937.

Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, 1938.

Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.

Certificate of Food Hygiene, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.

Second Public Health Inspector :

K. O. Batten, C.R.S.H.,

Certificated Public Health Inspector, The Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board, 1937.

Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute, 1939.

Senior Clerk : Miss R. A. Hitchings.

Junior Clerk : Miss M. Evans.

Cleansing Foreman : Mr. C. Brace.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Bedwellty House,
TREDEGAR Mon.

July, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Powell and Gentlemen,

It is with much pleasure that I submit to you my Annual Report for the Year 1960, which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 1/60 Wales, issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District :—

Parish of Tredegar	...	...	...	...	4,360 acres
Parish of Dukestown	...	...	...	...	3,788 acres
					<hr/> 8,148 acres

Rateable Value of the District £125,529

Estimated Product of Id. Rate £470

Amount per Pound of Rates Levied for the District

(Year ended 30/4/61) 28/-

Number of Dwelling Houses 5,654

The population of the district reached its peak in the years 1924-25 when the figure given was 26,380. The depression during the years that followed brought a gradual exodus, especially of the younger people to more prosperous areas, resulting in a steady decline, leaving in 1939 an estimated population figure of 20,600. This drop continued somewhat during the war years, but an upward trend is again noted for the post war years and the Registrar General's estimate for 1960 is 20,260.

The natural and social conditions of the area fully described in earlier reports altered little during the year.

Geographically situated at the Northern entrance or gateway of the head of the Sirhowy Valley and lying on either side of the river Howy almost at its source, the district has an altitude of between 800 feet above sea level at Bedwellty Pits Village on the Southern extremity to 1,350 feet at Trefil Quarries in the North.

Physically, the upper portion of the district lies above the outcrop of the South Wales Coalfield upon the Farewell Rock or Millstone Grit and Limestone Rocks which still continue to give employment to a considerable number of workmen at the Quarries, feeding the limestone for use at the Ebbw Vale Steelworks. The lower portion of the district have on either side of the valley mountainous ridges, formed of Sandstone overlying the coal measures.

In shape, the map of the district resembles the form of a "kite" being over seven miles in its length through which the river Howy traverses, the mountain moorland in the northern limits stretching to a width of about three miles, tapering along the valley to a few furlongs in width at the southern extremity.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTH RATE.

			<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births (Legitimate)			179	182	361
(Illegitimate)			6	3	9
			<hr/> 185	<hr/> 185	<hr/> 370

Producing a birth rate of 18.2 per 1,000 population as compared with 16.6 for 1959 ; 17.9 for 1958 ; 16.6 for 1957 ; 13.75 for 1956 ; 16.39 for 1955 ; 17.14 for 1954 ; 16.14 for 1953 ; 17.82 for 1952, 19.05 for 1951 ; 19.67 for 1950 and 21.35 for 1949.

Rate for County ... 17.29.			Rate for England and Wales, 17.1.		
Still Births (Legitimate)			5	4	9
(Illegitimate)			—	1	1
			<hr/> 5	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 10

Rate for County ... 0.48 Rate for England and Wales ... 0.34

Which gives a rate of 0.49 per 1,000 population as against 0.94 for 1959 0.89 for 1958; 0.49 for 1957; 0.74 for 1956; 0.75 for 1955; 0.34 for 1954; 0.48 for 1953 and 0.83 for 1952 ; 0.49 for 1951 and 0.88 for 1950.

The still-birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is as follows :

1960	...	...	...	...	26.30
1959	...	...	...	...	52.05
1958	...	...	...	...	48.89
1957	...	...	...	...	27.06
1956	...	...	...	...	42.61
1955	...	...	...	...	51.72
1954	...	...	...	...	21.08
1953	...	...	...	...	27.77
1952	...	...	...	...	49.27
1951	...	...	...	...	26.88
1950	...	...	...	...	44.33
1949	...	...	...	...	15.26
1948	...	...	...	...	22.44

DEATH RATE.

After correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar General, the number of deaths during 1960 was :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	133	95	228
Resulting in a death rate per 1,000 population of 11.2.			
Rate for County ... 13.2.			Rate for England and Wales ... 11.5.

Comparable figures for earlier years were :—

1946	...	...	11.77 ;	1945	...	10.74 ;	1944	...	11.54
1930	...	...	10.37 ;	1914	...	17.90 ;	1901	...	19.33

MATERNAL DEATH RATE.

There were no maternal deaths in the district during the year.

The rate for 1960 per 1,000 (live and still) births is as follows :—

Mon. Admins. County	} Nil.
TREDEGAR U.D.	

For the earlier ten years the number of maternal deaths for the district were :—

1959	...	Nil	1954	...	Nil.
1958	...	Nil	1953	...	Nil.
1957	...	Nil	1952	...	Nil.
1956	...	Nil	1951	...	1
1955	...	Nil	1950	...	1

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one week :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Totals</i>	
Legitimate	4	3	7	} Total 7
Illegitimate	—	—	—	

Deaths of infants under one month :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Neo-natal death rate per 1,000 live births, 18.9. Rate for County, 17.6.

Deaths of infants under one year :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total,</i>	
Legitimate	8	5	13	} 13
Illegitimate	—	—	—	

Giving a rate per 1,000 live births of 35.1.

Rate for County, 25.5.

Rate for England and Wales, 21.7.

A few comparative figures for past years are given below :—

1959	...	37.5	1947	...	47.28
1958	...	19.3	1944	...	58.08
1957	...	19.3	1942	...	62.03
1956	...	20.7	1941	...	78.88
1955	...	51.66	1924	...	73.4
1954	...	47.2	1914	...	125.00
1953	...	50.00	1904	...	190.00
1952	...	48.78			

The rate of legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births was 35.1.

Statistical Tables appertaining to your district are appended to the Report.

A comparison of the vital statistics of the district with those for England and Wales also for the County for 1960 are set out in the accompanying tabulation :—

	BIRTH RATE.		DEATH RATE.	
	<i>Live births per 1,000 population.</i>	<i>Still births per 1,000 live still births</i>	<i>All ages per 1,000 population.</i>	<i>Under 1 yr. per 1,000 live births</i>
England and Wales ...	17.1	19.7	11.5	21.7
Monmouthshire ...	17.29	27.2	13.2	25.5
TREDEGAR U.D. ...	18.2	26.3	11.2	35.1

Comparability Factors : Births, 1.00 Deaths, 1.13

The average age at death for the year :—

Males 60.7 years (as against 64.4 for 1959).

Females 65.7 yrs. (as against 71.8 for 1959).

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifications.

A Table of the case rates per 1,000 Home Population of corrected notifications received during the year 1960 for the district with corresponding figures for 1959 for comparison is set out below.

Maybe there were a number of "missed" or non-notified cases of the commoner infectious diseases, even so, allowing for a reasonable margin in this respect, the incidence of infectious diseases was fairly low. Reference to Table I I will give further details of age groups.

	<i>Tredegar Urban Area</i>	
	1960	1959
Typhoid Fever	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—
Scarlet Fever	0.098	0.24
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—
Smallpox	—	—
Measles	—	10.2
Pneumonia	—	0.29
Ac. Poliomyelitis (inc. Pol. encephalitis) :	—	—
Paralytic	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—
Food Poisoning	0.34	2.1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	—	0.29

TUBERCULOSIS

The state of the Tuberculosis Register for the district at the commencement and at the close of 1960 was as follows :

	Males.		Females.		Total
	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	
1st Jan., 1960 ...	111	70	149	45	375
31st Dec., 1960 ...	109	70	151	44	374

Statistics showing the number of new cases and mortality during the year, arranged in age groups, are given in Table III at the end of the Report. For comparison, the figures for 1959 and several previous years are given below :

Year	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulm'ry</i>
1960 ...	16	2	2	1
1959 ...	19	2	3	1
1958 ...	14	1	—	—
1957 ...	26	—	7	—
1956 ...	13	1	1	—
1955 ...	30	3	4	2
1954 ...	29	4	5	—
1953 ...	23	3	13	1
1952 ...	20	5	8	2
1951 ...	26	11	9	2

The total number of notifications of admission to (Form 1) and discharge from (Form 2) Institutions during the year were :—

	Males.		Females.	
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulm'ry</i>
Admissions ...	7	—	9	Nil.
Discharges ...	8	—	11	Nil.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1926 Relating to persons employed in the Milk Trade or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

It was found necessary for the Council to arrange for the destruction of soiled bedding.

In conclusion, I again take the opportunity to express my appreciation of the continued and willing support of the Council and the loyal service rendered the Department by the Officers and all the members of the staff through the year.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

M. J. DONELAN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

(Registrar General's Return)

	1960		
	M.	F.	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	5	2	7
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	1	9
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm uterus	—	/	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	17	—	24
Leucaemia, Aleucaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	21	29
Coronary disease, angina	19	5	24
Hypertension with heart disease... ..	5	8	13
Other heart disease	13	19	32
Other circulatory disease	8	6	14
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	5	7
Bronchitis	18	3	21
Other disease of respiratory system	6	—	6
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Congenital malformations... ..	3	1	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	9	17
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	—	1
Other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	—	2
ALL CAUSES	133	95	228

Population 20,260

TABLE II

9

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1960. (After correction and other than Tuberculosis).

DISEASE.	AGE GROUPS										Total at all ages
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	1	—	7
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polionyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	—	—	2	—	—	3	3	—	1	—	9

TABLE III.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during
1960 according to age groups.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'y		Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'y	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-44	2	4	1	—	1	—	—	1
45-64	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 & Over	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	6	10	1	1	1	1	—	1

REPORT
OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

O. GRIFFITHS, M.R.S.H.

II

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Public Health Department,

Bedwellty House,

TREDEGAR, Mon.

July, 1961

To the Chairman and Members of the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Powell and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1960.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Section I. WATER.

The water area of the authority has been well supplied and every effort made to maintain a high standard of purity.

The total quantity of water filtered during the year was :—

At the Nantybwlch Filtration Plant ... 463,690,000 galls.

At the Georgetown Filtration Plant ... 137,183,000 galls.

Of this amount :—

138,092,000 galls were supplied in bulk to the BEDWELLY U.D.C.

4,299,849 galls. were supplied in bulk to the RHYMNEY U.D.C.

Approximate number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains :—

			<i>Dwelling houses.</i>		<i>Population.</i>
(a) Total in District	...	...	5,654	...	20,260
(b) Direct service to houses	...	...	5,648	...	20,242
(c) Standpipes	...	...	6	...	18

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

	<i>Satisfactory.</i>		<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Raw</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Raw</i>	<i>Treated</i>	
TREDEGAR U.D.	1	35	14	Nil	50

All samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport.

CLIMATOLOGICAL STATION.

Latitude	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51° 46' North.
Longitude	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3° 22' West.
Height above m.s.l.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1028 feet.
Grid Reference	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31/141087
Air Ministry Ref. No. (M.O.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4007/5.

The Council embarked on this scientific work in January, 1949, and observations were commenced in January, 1950. The main difficulty was in siting the instruments satisfactorily, but in June, 1951, an ideal site was obtained in the swimming bath enclosure and the equipment was set up here towards the end of 1951. The station was inspected by a Meteorological Officer of the Air Ministry in the following month.

All the instruments are of standard design and carry certificates of correction by the National Physical Laboratory or the Meteorological Office. Observations of maximum and minimum temperature, wet and dry bulb temperature, humidity, vapour pressure, dew point, grass minimum temperature, rainfall, barometric pressure and sunshine are taken daily throughout the year at 09.00 hours, G.M.T.

All temperatures, except grass minimum, are taken from thermometers exposed in Stevensons Screens standing 4 feet above a grass plot, and are expressed in degrees F. Pressure readings are expressed in millibars and the readings are corrected for temperature, height above m.s.l. latitude and index Error.

The station barometer is a Kew pattern and only reads correctly at a temperature of 285 deg. A. on 52 deg. N latitude at m.s.l. Any deviations from these conditions must be corrected. Rainfall is measured in inches and collected in a standard 5-inch raingauge.

Instruments in use at present consist of :—

Maximum Thermometer, solid stem	...	...	No. M.O.215950
Minimum Thermometer, solid stem	...	...	No. M.O.66104/49
Wet Bulb Thermometer, Glass sheathed	...	...	No. M.O.72135/42
Dry Bulb Thermometer, Glass sheathed	...	...	No. M.O.72634/45
Grass Minimum Thermometer, Glass sheathed	...	...	No. M.O.33511/58
Kew pattern Station Barometer	...	...	No. 3412/49
M.O. pattern Thermograph	...	...	No. M.O.1384/50
M.O. pattern Hygograph	...	...	No. M.O.954/45
M.O. pattern Open Scale Barograph	...	...	No. M.O. 146/44
B.R.O. pattern 5-inch Raingauge	...	...	No. M.O.7093/58
M.O. pattern-taper measure	...	...	No. M.O.13955/58
Campbell Stokes pattern Sunshine Recorder	...		
	Bowl	...	No. M.O.367/50
	Sphere	...	No. M.O. 1988/58
Dynes Tilting Syphon Rain Gauge	...	...	No. M.O. 651
Direct Reading Anemometer Mk.IB.	...	...	M.O.200/44/50/51
Remote Indicating Indicator	...	...	M.O. 9355/11
Wind Vane	...	...	M.O. 1641/51
Indicator	...	...	M.O. 2841

Thermometers and autographic instruments housed in two-Standard Stevenson Screens.

Summaries of observations are published each month in the "Monthly Weather Report" and each year in the "General Table" of British Rainfall, both of the Air Ministry.

CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS 1960

	Temperatures			Mean Temps.			Pressure			Rainfall		Days with Rain	Days with Snow	Nights with Ground Frost	Average Daily Sun-Shine
	Max.	Min.	Min Grass	Day	Night	M'th	Max.	Min.	Mean	Total	Wettest Day				
	°F	°F	°F.	°F	°F	°F	mbs.	mbs.	mbs.	ins.	ins.				hrs.
JAN.	51	21	20	42.3	33.6	37.9	1036.0	984.8	1014.4	8.68	1.70	18	9	16	0.82
FEB.	54	22	10	41.3	32.7	37.0	1042.1	990.7	1007.2	7.35	1.71	16	10	19	2.38
MAR.	57	28	26	46.1	36.2	41.1	1029.5	986.6	1010.5	3.72	.80	14	2	11	2.56
APR.	61	28	19	53.0	39.1	46.1	1030.6	994.3	1018.7	5.19	1.20	14	—	11	5.65
MAY	68	35	24	60.6	44.8	52.7	1028.0	1004.5	1017.6	2.31	.69	11	—	3	5.07
JUNE	78	42	30	67.5	50.6	59.1	1027.5	1000.9	1017.7	2.85	1.35	12	—	1	8.09
JULY	67	40	30	62.3	50.2	56.3	1020.7	997.1	1010.5	5.75	1.01	24	—	1	4.61
AUG.	70	41	34	63.2	49.9	56.5	1018.3	1000.9	1010.6	4.84	1.45	19	—	—	4.57
SEP.	68	38	31	59.2	47.0	53.1	1030.0	997.49	1014.3	6.40	1.36	16	—	—	3.65
OCT.	60	32	24	53.2	43.1	48.1	1023.3	990.3	1003.2	9.70	1.29	20	—	9	1.89
NOV.	55	26	15	47.5	38.3	42.9	1021.8	980.85	1002.4	14.54	1.82	29	—	15	1.64
DEC.	52	24	13	41.8	33.4	37.6	1027.79	988.64	1007.7	8.11	3.32	25	8	23	1.54
Totals	741	377	276	638.0	498.9	568.4	—	—	12134.8	79.44	—	218	29	109	42.47
Means	62	31	23	53.2	41.6	47.4	—	—	1011.2	6.62	—	—	—	—	3.54

Open Air Swimming Bath.

The Pool, which is situated in beautiful surroundings within Bedwelty Park, was opened in July 1932, at a total cost of £10,000. The Pool is constructed of 7-ft. reinforced concrete at the deep end and 5-ft. reinforced concrete at the shallow end with a 4-inch raft of plain concrete under the whole floor. Its length is 200 feet and 50 feet wide with a capacity of 257,000 gallons. It is 8-ft. 6-ins. at the deep end and 2-ft. 6-ins. at the shallow end.

The purification plant consists of two pressure filters 8-ft. in diameter by 10-ft. long. After being filtered the water is dosed with liquid chlorine.

Regular samples of water are taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Newport. Seven samples were taken, 6 were found satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number of Bathers ...	66,698	29,557	41,804	19,840	38,841	36,621
Number of Spectators ...	9,832	3,504	5,042	2,205	7,213	3,103

Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically the whole of the district is provided with subsidiary stone-ware sewers, which are linked up to the main sewers, laid along the river bed. The Western Valley's (Mon.) Sewerage Board (of which the Council is a constituent authority) have control of the trunk sewers.

The cleansing and repair of choked or defective drainage systems, both public and private is pressed immediately upon receipt of complaint or noted during inspection.

Rivers and Streams.

The river Howy, with a small number of tributaries, traverses the length of the district. Every vigilance is exercised to prevent the dumping of refuse along its banks.

Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is almost universal throughout the area. An estimate of the number of each type of closet is as follows :—

(1) Number of pail or privy closets (including several of the chemical type) to isolated farms, cottages and other premises where no sewer is available	...	...	38
(2) Number of closets with fixed receptacles	...	...	5
(3) Number of closets with moveable receptacles	...	...	5
(4) Number of closets with flushing apparatus	...	...	174
(5) Number of closets (hand flushed)	...	...	2204

Section 2.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Throughout the year this vital Sanitary and Public Health Service was regularly maintained, the frequency of which is shown in the accompanying table.

During the year refuse has been deposited on the modified controlled tips at the north and south ends of the district. A labourer is employed at each tip to ensure proper control and there have been no serious complaints of nuisance or rodents.

DETAILS OF REFUSE COLLECTION.

The district is divided into five areas for refuse collection with a driver and two loaders allocated to each vehicle, a sixth vehicle being held in reserve.

Area.	Streets	Days per Week
GEORGETOWN	Fields Rd., Ashville, Villas, Hill View, Oakfield Rd., Lower and Upper James St., Walter St., Southend, Georgetown Schools, Gladstone Place, Poplar Place, Rhyd Villas and Troedrhiwgwair	5
	Kimberly Tce., Richmond Tce., York Tce., Elmwood, Victoria Tce., Alexander Tce., Edward Tce., Police Station, Prospect Place, Bowens Tce., Park Place, Glyn Tce., Woodfield Rd., Whitworth Tce., St. James Hospital, Rhyd Tce., and Arthur St. ...	5
	Bedwelty Pits, Heathfield and Pochin	3
	Contract 'Bus Services	1
	Total number of premises, Georgetown Area	1171

CENTRAL	Duke St., Iron Row, Iron St., Bridge St., Vale Tce., Pochin Crescent, Brompton Place, Cottage Homes, Market St., Castle St., The Circle, Morgan St., Park Hill, Park Row, Harcourt Tce., Islwyn Tce. ...	5
	Morgan Street, Inkerman Tce., Parkville, Upper and Lower Salisbury St., Park View, Pencoed, Cefn Rhos, Cwm Rhos, Upper and Lower Coronation Street, Shop Row and Vale View	5
	Cefn Golau, Aberffrwyd, Tredegar Station	3
	Total number of premises, Central Area ...	1270

WEST AREA	Queen Sq., Red Lion Sq., Commercial St., Mount St., Picton St., High St., Earl St., Bournville, West Hill, Glandovey Tce., George St., Union St. ...	5
	Tanybank, Griffiths Gardens and Square, North Ave., Bevans Ave., Pembroke St., Brynbach St., Greenwood Ave., Isolation Hosp., The Crescent, Fairview Bung., Maple Ave., Laburnum Ave., Sycamore Ave.	5
	Total number of Premises, West Area ...	1154

SIRHOWY and DUKESTOWN	Alexandra Place, Railway View, Nursery Tce., Charles St., Arnold Place, Dukestown Rd., Butleigh Tce., Scwrfa, Dukestown, Twyn Star	5
	Tafarnaubach, Tynewydd, Lwynhelyg, Penybont Station Tce., Pantydwr, Bush Bach, Station Road, White Lion Cottages, Minyrafon, Rear Ashvale, Waundeg	5
	Trefil Quarries, Trefil Village	4
	Awelfa	3
	Coach Bach	2
	Total number of Premises, Sirhowy and Dukestown area	1068

BEAUFORT ROAD AREA	Beaufort Rd., Rhoslan, Brynbicca, Ladies Row, King St., Tredegar Tce., Howy Tce., Harford St., Mafeking Tce., part Kimberley Tce., Pretoria Tce., Ladysmith Tce., Buller Tce., Colenzo Tce., Roberts Tce., Greenfield Tce., Bethel Ave., Post Office, Workman's Hall, George St., Pond Row, Temple St., Church Sq., Polar Pl., St. Georges Place ...	5
	Peacehaven, rear Morgan St., Vaughan's Yard, Carpenters Yard, Four Rows	5
	Lower Mount Pleasant, Penmark	2
	Total Number of Premises, Beaufort Rd. Area ...	1067

Vehicles :

No addition was made to the refuse collecting fleet during the year.
The present fleet consists of :—

- 2 Austin, 10 cubic yard freighters.
- 1 Bedford, 10 cubic yard freighter.
- 1 Karrier, Fore and aft tipper.
- 1 Fordson 10 cubic yard freighter.
- 1 Fordson 10 h.p. 2 cubic yard freighter.
- 1 Karrier Gully Emptier and Street Cleaner.
- 1 Bedford-Lacre Sweeper Collector.

Six vehicles are on the road daily, one being kept at the yard for maintenance and as a spare. The 2 cubic yard Fordson is used for collecting at points which are inaccessible to the larger vehicles and for the weekly collection of boiler ashes from St. James Hospital.

The garage staff under the direction of the chief mechanic are to be congratulated on the manner in which they have maintained the vehicles. On no occasion during the year has a vehicle failed to complete its particular beat owing to mechanical fault.

COST STATEMENT 1960—1961.
REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Items	Particulars	Totals		
		£	s.	d.
1	Gross Expenditure :			
	(1) Labour	8,005	0	0
	(2) Transport	5,620	0	0
	(3) Plant Buildings Land	1,772	0	0
	(4) Other items	445	0	0
	Total gross expenditure	15,842	0	0
2	Gross Income	55	0	0
3	Net Cost	15,787	0	0

Sickness.

The high incidence of sickness continues to throw a heavy burden on the Department. The following table shows the time lost per month in days throughout the year.

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
115	68	87	58	50	55	52	59	90	132	62	103

TOTAL ... 931

A drop of 232 days on 1959.

TEST WEIGHING OF REFUSE.

Arrangements were made with the Coal Board for the use of their weigh-bridge at Sirhowy and test weighings of all refuse were completed in February, 1960.

Two days were chosen—a heavy day (Monday) and a light day (Wednesday)

The results are as follows :—

				<i>Light Day.</i>			<i>Heavy Day</i>		
				t.	c.	q.	t.	c.	q.
Georgetown	..	..	..	7	10	3	11	13	0
Central	..	..	..	5	11	2	7	15	1
Town	..	..	..	7	7	1	16	9	3
Sirhowy and Dukestown	..	..		5	11	2	8	3	3
North	..	..	..	4	3	0	11	10	3
TOTALS	..	..	..	30	4	0	55	12	2

From these weighings it can be assumed that 42 tons are collected daily. Calculating on a 5 day week the yearly total amounts to 10,582 tons. Further statistics are as follows :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Weight of refuse removed per vehicle :			
Light day ...	5	13	0
Heavy day ...	11	2	0
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 population per week ...	10	10	0
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 population per day... ..	2	2	0
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 properties per week ...	38	0	0
Weight of refuse removed per 1,000 properties per day ...	7	12	0

Test weighings are carried out twice yearly during the summer and winter periods.

Roads and Highways.

Of the total or approximately 43 miles of roads in the district, 13.240 miles are classified as under :—

(a) TRUNK ROAD A.465 :

Merthyr—Abergavenny Road. From Waenpound to the boundary of Rhymney U.D. at Princetown 2.50 miles

(b) CLASS I ROAD A.4048 :

From Sirhowy Bridge to Pochin (Northern Boundary of Bedwellty U.D.) 4.01 miles

(c) CLASS II ROAD B.4256 :

From Queen Victoria Street to the Rhymney U.D. boundary at Heath Cock 1.39 miles

(d) CLASS III ROADS.

From A.465 near Crown Inn, Nantybwhch to Quarrymen's Arms, Trefil	1.85 miles.
From A.465 near Railway Hotel to Station Road near Crown Inn, Nantybwhch	1.21 miles.
From A.4048 at Morgan Street via Shop Row to Ebbw Vale U.D. Boundary near Mountain Air Gate ...	1.11 miles.
From B.4256 near Cefn Golau Cemetery to U.D. Boundary South of Mountain Ash Inn	1.13 miles.
From A.465 along mountain to Groespenmaen via. Manmoel	2.88 miles.

Street Cleansing.

Every effort has been made to man all sweeping beats throughout the year, but the high incidence of sickness has made this part of the service extremely difficult to carry out fully.

The total mileage swept by the Mechanical Sweeper during the year was 700.9 miles.

Street and Gully Cleansing

Item.	Particulars.	Total		
1	Gross Expenditure :	£	s.	d.
	(1) Labour	2,766	0	0
	(2) Transport	1,551	0	0
	(3) Plant, Equipment and Buildings	—		
	(4) Other Items	123	0	0
	(5) Gross Expenditure ...	4,440	0	0
2	Gross Income : (Excluding reimbursements)	18	0	0
3	Net Cost	4,422	0	0

This Urban Area is unique in having a daily collection of refuse for the greater portion of the town, all refuse being disposed of by modified controlled tipping at a distance of about 2 miles from the town centre.

Street gullies are cleansed by a modern gully cleanser and during periods of dry weather all main road are regularly sprayed and washed.

No. of gullies emptied during the year 2498

No. of miles of streets swept 700.9.
(by Mechanical means).

Operational Statistics.

Mileage of streets cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	52
Frequency of cleansing :—						
At least once daily	...	...	...	...	...	7%
Three to five times weekly		...	...	...	...	90%
Twice weekly	...	...	...	...	...	2%
Once weekly	...	...	...	...	...	1%
Less than once weekly	...	...	...	...	...	—

Snow Clearance.

In the event of heavy falls of snow the department's vehicles are made available to the Surveyor's Department in assisting in snow clearance.

Salvage and Other Income.

During the year under review 20 tons 18 cwts. 1 qr. of mixed waste paper was collected which realised £146 7s. 9d.

A contract is in force with the Fatstock Marketing Corporation whereby all manure is removed weekly from the Slaughterhouse at a charge of 10/- per week. This manure is then sold locally at 10/-d. per load. The amount realised for disposal and sale of manure was £40 5s. 0d.

Maintenance of litter bins—£5 5s. 0d.

Total income amounted to £191 17s. 9d.

Public Conveniences.

These are situated as follows :—

<i>Male Conveniences :</i>		<i>Waterclosets.</i>	<i>Urinals.</i>
Church Street	...	1	1
Park Row	...	2	1
Vale Terrace	...	Nil.	1
Commercial Street	...	5	1

Female Conveniences :

Commercial Street	...	5
Morgan Street	...	3
Castle Street	...	2
Park Row	...	2

Washing facilities are provided in the female conveniences at Morgan Street and Commercial Street. The new convenience at Commercial Street was completed in 1959.

Due to excessive damage it was found necessary to close the Male Conveniences at the Crown, Nantybwch and Beaufort Road, Sirhowy.

Section 3.**Housing.**

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts. 133

Number of inspections made for the purpose. 218

Improvement grants 39

Housing Loans 80

Overcrowding 3

List of Individual Unfit Houses**Closed, Closed in Lieu of Demolition or Demolished**

Up to 31st December, 1960.

<i>Address of Property</i>	<i>Date Order Made</i>	<i>Closed, Closed in lieu of Demolition, or Demolished</i>
Ty Gwyn Cottage, Nantybwh ..	8th March, 1960 ..	Closed in lieu of demolition
5 Carmel Street ..	do. ..	Demolition
6 Carmel Street ..	do. ..	do.
7 Duke Street ..	do. ..	do.
8a Duke Street ..	do. ..	do.
8b Duke Street ..	do. ..	do.
6 Queen Victoria St. ..	do. ..	Closed in lieu of Demolition.
46 Union Street ..	10th May, 1960 ..	Demolition
27 Bedwellty Pits ..	do. ..	Closed in lieu of Demolition.
25 Church Square ..	do. ..	do.
(Subsequently revoked on 15th May, 1961)		
The Lodge, Park View ..	8th November, 1960 ..	Demolition

Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses Elsewhere.

A.—HOUSES DEMOLISHED :

<i>In Clearance Areas :</i> (Housing Act, 1957).	<i>Houses de- molished</i>	<i>Displaced during year</i>	
		<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	—	—	—
(2) Houses included by bad arrangement, etc. ...	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
<i>Not in Clearance Areas :</i>			
(4) As a result of formal or informal action under Sec. 17 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	20	5
B.—UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED :			
(5) Under Sec. 16(4), 17(1), 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	3	17	4
(6) Housing Act, 1957 sec. 17(3), 26.	—	—	—
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18 Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—

C.—UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	<i>By Owner</i>	<i>By Local Authority</i>
(8) After informal action by local authority ...	13	—
(9) After formal notice : Public Health Acts Housing Act 1957	20	—
(10) Under Sec. 24 Housing Act, 1957	—	—

Housing Progress.

Total number of dwelling houses in the district 5,654
 Number of dwelling houses owned and controlled by the Local Authority :—

Pre-War	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	487
Post-War	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,095
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,582
Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year								650

Houses Erected during the Year.

	Temporary Prefabricated.						Permanent
By Local Authority	Nil.	...	...	64
By Private Enterprise	Nil.	...	...	10

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, Sec. 4 (Certificates of Disrepair).

Applications.	Granted.	Refused.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Sec. 43. Loans for House Purchase.

Of all recent Housing legislation this has, so far as Tredegar is concerned, been one of the most popular enactments. Today, owning one's own house is no doubt the best investment possible. The price of property has continued rising throughout the year and shows no signs, as yet, of coming to a halt.

One of the conditions attached to the loan, is that the property must be fit, or capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost, the standard of fitness being that contained in Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957.

All houses that are the subject of loan applications are inspected by an officer of this Department and a complete report of its condition prepared. From this a list of repairs is prepared and attached to the mortgage documents, the mortgagee agreeing to complete them within a specified period. At the end of the period allowed a further visit is made to ensure that the repair works have been satisfactorily completed.

During the year 79 applications were received for loans for house purchase, as against 81 last year. Of these 79, 30 were declined due to the nature of the unfitness of the house or for other reasons. Twenty-five applications were received for loans to carry out the required repair works, all being approved. In addition there were 16 applications for loans to purchase new dwellings.

The amount loaned for the purchase of a dwelling depends on the value of the house ; the advance being 95% of the value, and not, as many people think, of the selling price. If the difference between the valuation figure and the selling price is too great, then the Council rightly refuses to advance the loan. This has often resulted in a quick drop in the price to the buyers advantage.

In 1960, 74 advances were made, amounting to £46,794, while at the 31st March, 1960, advances outstanding amounted to £203,775.

From January to the middle of July, the rate of interest on loans was 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ % for periods up to 5 years and 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ % for periods over 5 years. From the middle of July onwards the rate rose to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ % for periods up to 30 years.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Sec. 4. Standard Grants.

This act became law in June, 1959 and made available to house owners a new type of grant—the Standard Grant—which enabled houses to be provided with five standard amenities :—

1. A fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
2. A lavatory basin.
3. A hot water supply.
4. A water closet in or contiguous to the dwelling.
5. Satisfactory facilities for the storage of food.

This Act covers the provision of all or some of the five amenities. Should a dwelling be without a lavatory basin, but possesses the other four amenities, then the house owner can apply for grant aid to enable him to purchase and fix the basin.

The amount of the grants are as follows :—

Fixed bath or shower	..	£25
Lavatory Basin	..	£5
Hot Water Supply	..	£75
Water Closet	..	£40
and Food Storage Facilities		£10

In 1960, 27 applications were received, 21 of which were approved ; 3 were declined and 3 withdrew their applications. The amount involved was £2,580.

This meant that since June, 1959, the date of introduction of this scheme, a total of 55 applications were approved involving a sum of £6,025.

Of these 55 applications, during the year 1960 the works were completed in 17 cases and grant totalling £1,832 paid. This sum was used to provide :—

- 15 Bathrooms.
- 15 Wash-hand basins.
- 11 Water closets.
- 15 hot water supplies.
- 8 Food storage facilities.

Together with the works completed in 2 cases in 1959, the cumulative total of grant paid in respect of 19 properties was £1,963 and was used to provide the following amenities :—

- 17 Bathrooms.
- 17 Wash-hand basins.
- 12 Water closets.
- 17 Hot water systems.
- 8 Food storage facilities.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Discretionary Grants.

These grants allow more ambitious improvements. Certain conditions have to be satisfied to qualify, but in the main the house after improvement must be fit and conform to the following points :—

- (i) Be in a good state of repair and substantially free from damp ;
- (ii) have each room properly lighted and ventilated ;

- (iii) have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on in the dwelling ;
- (iv) be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes ;
- (v) have an internal or otherwise readily accessible water closet ;
- (vi) have a fixed bath (or shower) in a separate room ;
- (vii) be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water ;
- (viii) be provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available).
- (ix) be provided with adequate facilities for heating ;
- (x) have adequate facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food ;
- (xi) and have facilities for storing fuel (where required).
- (xii) be provided with a proper drainage system.

In 1960, 31 preliminary applications for grants were received, of which 30 were approved, 1 being withdrawn. Eighteen formal applications were received and all approved, the amount involved being £5,909.

During the year 23 applications were completed and paid out involving a sum of £6,696. To the 31st December, 1960, a total of £21,007 had been paid in discretionary improvement grants for the improvement of 74 properties

In both types of application the dwelling is visited by a member of the Public Health Staff and the Council advised as to whether it is suitable for improvement or not.

Itinerant Caravaners.

The itinerant pedler with his mobile dwelling continues to be a nuisance in the district.

During the year three caravans made their sudden appearance on the mountainous parts of the district and proceeded to foul the surrounding land the minute they arrived.

A visit to one revealed conditions that had to be seen to be believed. A family of 5 adults and a baby were living in conditions of putrid filth. Their bodies were black with dirt, while it was the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health that the baby had never been washed since it left the maternity unit and it was then 18 weeks old.

Steps were immediately taken to clean up this vehicle, while the appropriate authorities took over the responsibility of cleaning and clothing the filthy and clothes-less baby.

These people are a perpetual nuisance to all they come in contact. They do not work, feel no great obligation to their families, are disgustingly filthy in their habits and give work and headaches to every type of social worker employed by the state, voluntary organisations and local authorities.

There seems to be no satisfactory answer to this problem. Chasing them from one district to another is no answer, yet unless action of this kind is done, they quickly gather together in scores, making their pitch a foul and ugly blot in the district that is even more difficult to deal with.

Caravan Sites.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the district and the Council had in 1960 no intention of licensing any ground in Tredegar for this purpose.

Tredegar at an altitude of over 1000-ft. above m.s.l. with its long Winters is not suitable for these flimsy temporary dwellings.

Section 4.**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955**

The regular inspection of food premises was maintained during the year and it is pleasing to note the high standard of hygiene practised in these premises.

The amjority of these shops now possess refrigerators for bulk storage and refrigerated counter cabinets for display and sale.

The present trend of prepacking and the covering of loose foodstuffs is most satisfying and I feel that the food industry should receive some recommendation for the hygienic methods developed and the retailers for implementing and co-operating in maintaining such standards.

Inspection of Food Premises.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of Visits.</i>							
Butchers	15
Confectioners, Grocers and Greengrocers	135
Fishmongers and Poulterers	21
Icecream Premises	24
Markets and Stalls and Hawkers	50
Cafes	11
Slaughterhouses	586
Unsound Food	67
Licensed Premises	8
Food Hygiene Regulations	7
								<hr/> 924

Food Poisoning, 1960.

During the year there were 6 cases of *Shigella sonnei*, 2 of which were notified and 4 found during investigation and questioning of contacts. In all 18 suspected cases investigated, 12 of which proved negative.

All cases were isolated at home until 3 consecutive negatives were obtained. A total of 67 faecal specimens were taken but the origin of the food causing the outbreak was not found.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

<i>Defects Remedied.</i>	<i>Restaurants Kitchens and School Canteens</i>	<i>Bakers and Food Prep'rs.</i>	<i>Grocers and Greengrocers</i>	<i>Wet & Fried Fish Shops</i>	<i>Butchers</i>	<i>Dairies</i>	<i>Licensed Premises</i>
Drainage 			1				1
Hot Water Supply 			3				1
Clothing Accommodation 		1	1				
First Aid Materials 			1				
Cleanliness and Repair ... and Decoration 		1	4		1		
Provision of Refrigerators			1				
TOTAL 		2	11		1		2

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

The Food and Drugs Authority is the County Council and during the year 88 samples of food were taken in the Tredegar area.

These were as follows :—

Milk	..	..	..	..	..	35
Other Foods	..	..	..	..	..	45
Ice-cream	..	..	..	..	..	4
Beer	..	..	..	..	..	4

The Public Analyst certified all samples to be genuine.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

There are two slaughterhouses in the area, one leased from the Local Authority by the Fatstock Marketing Corporation and one licenced as a private slaughterhouse at Highfield, Nantybawch. The latter slaughterhouse is in excellent condition and should comply with all Ministry requirements with the installation of a stunning pen.

Plans and specifications have been prepared for repairs and improvements to the slaughterhouse occupied by the Fatstock Marketing Corporation and these will be submitted to the Ministry during the year 1960. The alterations will include for increased covered lairage accommodation, additional toilet facilities for staff, the provision of a stunning pen, new boiler for pig scalding, a meat conditioning room and general incidental repairs to ensure hygienic working conditions.

Meat is distributed from the slaughterhouse in modern transport vans which are always kept in a hygienic condition and adequate facilities are provided for the staff in the way of overalls to ensure clean handling of meat.

I am pleased to report that both slaughterhouses have been kept in a clean condition and co-operation with both occupiers has been excellent.

Ante-mortem inspection of all animals is carried out as far as is practicable and post mortem inspection is ensured by regular attendance during the slaughtering period at both slaughterhouses.

Plans and specifications of works were submitted to the Ministry and these have now been approved, subject to slight alterations.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number Killed ...	981	35	169	11861	3879	Nil.
Number Inspected	981	35	169	11861	3879	Nil.
<u>All Diseases</u>						
<u>Except Tuberculosis</u>						
<u>and Cysticerci :</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	1	—	30	4	Nil.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	373	11	—	167	614	Nil.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	38.03	34.2	—	1.6	15.9	Nil.
<u>Tuberculosis Only :</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	—	29	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis. ...	0.5	—	—	—	0.7	—
<u>Cysticercosis :</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	10	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	10	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

CONDEMNATION OF UNSOUND FOOD.

						Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
<i>TUBERCULOSIS :</i>									
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..				—	—	—	—
Meat	..	..	..	..	..	—	2	3	26
Offal	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	—	16
Total	..	..	..	..	..	—	4	—	14
<i>NON-TUBERCULOSIS :</i>									
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..				—	17	3	13
Meat	..	..	..	..	..	—	8	—	21
Offal	..	..	..	..	..	—	17	2	15
Total	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	3	21
Total amount—Tuberculosis and Non-Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	4	8	—	7
<i>OTHER FOODS :</i>									
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	4
Butter	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	1
Ham	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	8
Sausages	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	25
Imported Beef	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	—	—
Cake	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	6
Lard ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	1	7
Pork ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	16
Total	..	..	..	..	..	—	2	2	11

1,330 tins and assorted packets of foodstuffs.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**MILK SUPPLY.**

The bulk of the milk is imported, all consisting of bottled milk from Heat Treatment Plants at Merthyr and Trecynon.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954

Number of Licences issued	...	...	...	32
Dealers Licence to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	12
Dealers Licence to retail T.T. Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	11
Number of Dairymen registered	...	...	...	12
Dealers Licence to retail Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	9

Milk Samples

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised...	23	Nil	23
Pasteurised	43	Nil	43
Sterilised	19	Nil	19
	<hr/> 85	<hr/> Nil	<hr/> 85

MILK (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) ORDER, 1953.

From the 1st January, 1954, all milk sold in Tredegar must be one carrying a special designation (i.e. Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested, T.T. Pasteurised or sterilised).

There are no milk producers in Tredegar, milk being delivered to the district in crated bottles by milk producers situated outside the district.

**Registration of Ice-Cream Premises.
Heat Treatment Regulations**

Manufacturers (Cold Mix)	...	...	...	5
Retailers ... ..	...	...	...	82

Ice-Cream Sampling.

<i>Grade.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
1	6	100
2	—	—
3	—	—
4	—	—

Number of visits to Ice-Cream Premises 16. ...

The bulk of the ice-cream consumed in the area is prepacked and supplied by the larger distributor manufacturers.

Section 5.**SHOPS ACT, 1950.****TREDEGAR (EARLY CLOSING) ORDER, 1925.**

Number of visits 128.

Defects. *Remedied.*

Inadequate temperature 4

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952.

This Act makes it an offence to sell any heating appliance unless fitted with a guard that conforms to the standard set out in the Heating Appliance (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953.

Retailers of Heating Appliances are regularly visited and all heating appliances are examined to ensure that they conform to the regulation.

Public Health Acts Amendments Act, 1907, Section 86.

By the Old Metal Dealers (No. 7) Order made on the 25th October, 1952, the Home Secretary declared Section 86 of the Public Health Acts Amendments Act, 1907 to be in force in this district.

The number of Old Metal Dealers in the register on the 31st December, 1960 was two.

Public Offices, Bedwellty House.

The Caretaker and Cleansing staff consists of two part time female cleaners and one full time caretaker, Mr. William Lewis. Mr. Lewis is responsible to me for the cleanliness of the Council Offices and this duty he performs admirably. Mr. T. J. Jenkins, the Housing Estates Manager carries out all necessary repairs and decorations.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Number of Factories on Register ... 41. No. of Inspections ... 18.

Defects found in Factories.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	<i>Number of Prosecutions Instituted.</i>
Nuisances under Public Health Act.	—	—	—	—
Drainage	—	—	—	—
Dirty Conditions	2	2	—	—
Total ...	2	2	—	—
Factories Act Sanitary Accommodation Unsuitable or Defective ...	1	1	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes ...	1	—	—	—
Total ...	2	1	—	—

Factories Act, 1937, Section 34.

Provision of Suitable Means of Escape in Case of Fire.

1960 is the last year that district Councils will remain responsible for this duty under the Factories Act, 1937, as from the 1st January, 1961, The County Fire Department takes over this responsibility.

There can be no doubt at all that many District Councils throughout the County failed to give this task the importance it warranted.

So far as this town is concerned all factories have been regularly inspected for adequate means of escape in case of fire, and all factories in the district are in possession of the Statutory Certificate in which the Means of Escape are explicitly described.

During the years that this Department was responsible for this duty all factories were visited twice yearly and whether the County Fire Prevention Department will be able to maintain this frequency of visiting will remain to be seen. It seems to me that the majority of Departmental Heads are at heart Empire builders and I think this might well be a case in point.

If it transpires that the factory workers in Tredegar are to be safer from the dangers of fire and are to find themselves provided with quicker means of egress as a result of this administrative change, then indeed it was high time it took place.

No certificates were issued during 1960.

TYPES OF FACTORIES IN THE AREA.

<i>Classification of Trades</i>				<i>Mech. Power</i>	<i>Non-Mech. Power</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abrasives	...	...	...	1	—	1
Bakers	...	...	...	5	—	5
Brickyards	...	...	...	2	—	2
Builders Contractors	...	...	...	7	—	7
Clothing Manufacturers	...	...	...	1	—	1
Crown Corks	...	...	...	1	—	1
Gas Storage	..	..	..	1	—	1
Joinery	..	..	..	3	—	3
Motor Spares—Firestone	...	...	...	1	—	1
Printers	...	...	...	1	—	1
Radio & Television Engr.	...	...	...	5	—	5
Steel Processing	...	...	...	1	—	1
N.C.B. Engineering Shop,	...	...	...	1	—	1
Motor Vehicle Repairs	..	..	..	6	—	6
Wagon Repairs	..	..	..	2	—	2
Ore Crushing	..	..	..	1	—	1
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	2	—	2
Upholsterers	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals	...	...	...	41	1	42

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

No premises in Tredegar is registered under this Act.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 59.

There are two cinemas and two dance halls in the town, all of which are provided with satisfactory means of ingress and egress, as required by the above section.

Section 6.

Test Baiting of Sewers.

<i>Manholes baited</i>	<i>Complete takes</i>	<i>Part takes</i>	<i>No takes</i>
682	117	49	516

Number of Visits to Premises.

By Public Health Inspectors	...	...	152
By Rodent Operator	...	...	163
Total	...	...	315

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**Year ending March, 31st 1961.**

	(1) <i>Local Authority</i>	(2) <i>Dwelling Houses</i>	(3) <i>All other including business premises</i>	<i>Agri- cultural</i>	<i>Total Cols. 1, 2 & 3</i>
Total number of properties in Local Authority's Dist.	28	5,654	896	16	6,578
No. of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) By notification	—	125	28	—	153
(b) Survey under Act	2	—	—	—	2
(c) Otherwise ...	—	—	—	—	—
No. of properties Inspected which were found to be infested :					
(a) Rats : Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	2	96	17	—	115
(b) Mice : Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	29	11	—	40
No. treated by L.A.	2	125	28	—	155

The Councils sewers were treated twice during the year and all business premises surveyed and suitably treated where found necessary.

Warfarin is used for routine treatments and Zinc Phosphide and Arsenous Oxide for the treatment of sewers.

The use of Warfarin has had a profound effect on the extent and severity of Rodent Infestation, a fact which has been noticed and commented upon throughout the country. No one, of course, can disregard the valuable work done by local authorities in conjunction with the infestation division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the early years of the divisions formation under the Ministry of Food and despite the efficacy of Warfarin as a rodenticide, this early work has no doubt been the biggest factor in reducing the country's rat population to the figure that obtains today.

Comparison of the records of previous years shows a considerable diminishing of the number of treatments required for rodent infestation.

Section 7.

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES. Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936.

Preliminary Notices Served	...	...	...	20
Preliminary Notices Abated	...	...	...	14
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	...	39
Statutory Notices Abated	...	...	...	25

TABLE I.
Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

<i>Nature of Visits.</i>	<i>Visits.</i>
Accumulations	19
Animals	31
Bakehouses	2
Dangerous Buildings	1
Dirty Dwellings	2
Drainage	107
Factories	5
General Defects	147
Council Housing Investigations	12
Interviews	10
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	35
Mortuary	20
Public Conveniences	153
Rats and Mice	152
Refuse Collection	254
Refuse Disposal	268
Scrap Metal Dealers	4
Sanitary Accommodation	10
Shops Act, 1950	20
Street Cleansing	253
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	2
Water Supply	3
Housing Act, 1958, Section 43 (Loans)	80
Licensed Premises	8
Improvement Grants (Discretionary)	18
do. (Standard)	21
Tents, vans, sheds	9
Hairdressers	2
Hospitals	4

TABLE II.

General House Defects.

Defects and Nuisances.	General House Defects.						Remedied.
Defective Chimneys	20
Defective Roofs	65
Defective Spouting	24
Defective doors and furnishings	17
Defective ceiling plaster	31
Defective wall plaster	55
Defective firegrates and ovens	29
Defective Yards	15
Dilapidated window frames	44
Defective floors	52
Rain water pipes	14
Main walls	27
Defective staircases	12
Obstructed light and ventilation	18
Inadequate food storage	22
Provision of artificial lighting	11
Defective Boundary Walls	13
Dilapidated Fuel Storage	6
Defective Vent Pipes	2
Total	477

TABLE III.

Drainage and Sanitary Accommodation.

Defects and Nuisances.	Remedied.
Defective or insufficient drainage	107
Defective flushing cisterns	25
Broken pans and joints	9
Dilapidated water closet compartments	13
New water closet compartments constructed	8
Defective sinks	1
Defective water service	2
Hot water supply	10
New Sinks	16
New Baths	7

198

TABLE IV.

General Nuisances.

Defects and nuisances :						Remedied.
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	19
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	31
						<hr/>
						50

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Any nuisance from smoke in the atmosphere in Tredegar is limited to the Domestic chimney, industry adding little to the pollution of the air in the district. Although wide powers are available in the above Act to eliminate Smoke Pollution of the atmosphere, no Smoke Control Areas have been made by the Council, nor has the model byelaw—Smoke Prevention (106a) been adopted.

One of the duties of the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector is to advise the Council on matters relating to the Public Health and not to criticize the Council's policies if they are at variance with their opinions. In the matter of Clean Air, there is a feeling that any measures to rid the atmosphere of Air Pollution will in some way effect the material well being of the mine worker, despite the fact that all forms of fuel are born of coal.

While coal mining provides so many of Tredegar's workers with their daily bread, any steps to rid the air over this district of pollution are resisted.

However, the Council have made it clear that should the degree of air pollution in the district become a matter of concern, then steps will be taken immediately to remedy this and the interests of the Coal Industry would be then of secondary importance.

Address	Type of Boiler	Fuel	Working Pressure
N.C.B. Works ..	Shell type boiler with chain grate stoker and grit extractor. Automatic control and full instrumentation.	Duff	100 lbs. per sq. inch
St. James' Hospital ..	2 economic boilers coking stoker with reciprocating grate. Induced draught, grit extractor. CO ₂ recorder	P.Coal	100 lbs. per sq. inch
Messrs. Harvey & Co. Ltd., Ashvale ..	1 vertical boiler with underfeed stoker. Forced draught. Two Robin Hood sectional boilers.	P.Coal Coke	65 lbs. per sq. inch
Pochin Colliery ..	5 Lancashire boilers. Economiser. Hand fired. Induced draught.	Duff	140 lbs. per sq. inch. Water pre-heated.
Ty Trist Colliery ..	6 Lancashire boilers, Economiser. Hand fired. Induced draught. (These boilers are not now in use).	Duff	140 lbs. per sq. inch

Minnesota Mining Co.	Sectional boiler, fired by hand.	..	Coke	
Rd. Thos. & Baldwins Brickworks	2 Kilns, heated by coal. No forced draught. Induced by stack.	..	Coal	
N.C.B. Brickworks ..	2 Kilns heated by coal and induced draught. Induced by stack.	..	Coal	
Slaughterhouse ..	Gas-fired vertical boiler			

STAFF.

It gives me pleasure to pay tribute to my staff who have throughout the year worked loyally and efficiently.

Our relations with the other departments of the Council have been of the happiest.

I should like to thank my Chairman and all members of the Council for the interest they have shown during the year.

I am,

Yours obediently,

O. GRIFFITHS,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

